

**Fire Marshal's Advisory Board  
Meeting Tuesday, November 15, 2016  
10:00 AM – 12:30 PM CDT  
St. Joseph's Indian School  
Chamberlain, SD**

**Board members present:** Rick Gustad, Mike Harstad, Mike Roemmich, Jim Strain (conference line)

**Board members absent:** Jerry Diamond

**Department of Public Safety Staff Present:** Glenda Marks, Doug Hinkle, Mike Erickson, Paul Merriman.

**Call to Order & Roll Call:**

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM CST by Paul Merriman. Roll call taken and a quorum was present.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Motion to approve meeting minutes from February 9, 2016

Moved by: Rick Gustad

Seconded: Mike Harstad

Discussion: None

Minutes approved unanimously.

**Welcome Mike Roemmich:**

Lt. Mike Roemmich, Aberdeen Fire Rescue, was welcomed to the board by FMAB members and SFMO staff. This was Mike's first meeting and he thanked those in attendance for the opportunity to serve as a member of the board.

**Interactive Web-based Training, Testing, & Certification Program**

Deputy Marshal Mike Erickson provided board members with an overview of the proposed Action Training Systems expansion.

During year 2015, the SFMO launched a new web-based platform to deliver fire training videos that can be used by instructors and fire departments statewide.

These fire training programs and objectives provide fire departments access to essential training tools that may otherwise be out of reach. Programs are offered in multiple delivery formats: Streaming video for classroom instruction or independent viewing; DVD's for classroom instructor use; and customizable powerpoint presentations.

Based on the success of this initiative the program has been expanded this year to include an online interactive option for firefighter training, testing, and certification. The goal of the program is to improve recruitment of volunteers as well as increase the number of certified firefighters, by offering a more flexible and convenient training option.

Mike explained that a pilot or test run of the new program has started with the Parker Volunteer Fire Department hosting. The results of the pilot test will be presented to the board at a future meeting.

The board feels that this is a good direction for the training program to move in. Providing more flexibility for both volunteers and fire instructors.

#### **Fire Marshal's Office Updates**

Fire Marshal staff discussed the status of several initiatives to include the South Dakota Smoke Alarm Program, Local Assistance State Team (LAST Program), Firefighter Essentials Grant Program, and the upcoming legislative session.

#### **Next Meeting Date**

Conference calls will be scheduled for January and February to discuss and focus on any legislative updates or matters concerning the fire service. The next meeting of the Fire Marshal's Advisory Board will be scheduled for April. The date, time, and location of the meeting will be announced.

#### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:45.